



**National Shrine of St. Jude • Claretian Missionaries**

205 W. Monroe St. • Chicago, IL 60606 • 312-544-8230

[www.shrineofstjude.org](http://www.shrineofstjude.org) • [www.claretians.org](http://www.claretians.org)

*The National Shrine of St. Jude is located at 3200 E. 91st Street in Chicago.*

February 28, 2018

Commissioner Robert Taub, Chairman  
Commissioner Tony Hammond, Vice Chairman  
Commissioner Nancy Langley  
Commissioner Mark Acton  
Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20268

RE: Docket No. RM2017-3

Dear Commissioners:

We join the National Catholic Development Conference (NCDC), the Alliance of Nonprofit Mailers, and the nonprofit mailing community in urging you to reconsider your proposal to increase postage rates several times the rate of inflation. Increases that are estimated to reach 7 percent a year, or 40 percent compounded for five years, will not reform the United States Postal Service and will have a major negative impact on both the agency and its customers.

As a nonprofit, we rely on mail for the majority of our fundraising. But we operate on a limited, fixed fundraising budget each year, so if postage goes up as much as you contemplate, we will be forced to greatly reduce our mailings. This will have a disastrous impact on our revenue and our mission.

Our mission is serve the spiritual needs of our members and provide charitable assistance to children and others in need.

Postage increases totaling 40 percent over the next five years will have the following impact on our mission and the people we serve by substantially reducing the impact of our contributions.

Please do the right thing and reconsider your proposal.

Sincerely,

Rev. Mark J. Brummel, CME

Director, National Shrine of St. Jude

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY